



# IDW Communiqué



I-MANAGE Data Warehouse: Your link to DOE's Corporate Business Systems

July 2004

*This newsletter introduces you to the **I-MANAGE Data Warehouse (IDW)** project, delivers timely updates on its status, and familiarizes you with its functionality. IDW is part of the **I-MANAGE** Program currently underway at the Department of Energy (DOE).*

## How will IDW work with STARS?

*Communicating how the IDW will work with the Standard Accounting and Reporting System (STARS) and other I-MANAGE systems is one goal of the IDW team. Since the IDW "Go Live" depends on the successful implementation of STARS, it may help to understand how the two projects are working together to ensure a seamless transition from legacy systems. The following are some of the links between the current legacy systems, IDW, and STARS.*

**DISCAS, MARS, and FDW--STARS and IDW:** The Department's current financial system, Departmental Integrated Standardized Core Accounting System (DISCAS) provides data feeds to the Management Analysis and Reporting System (MARS). MARS, in turn, provides feeds to the Financial Data Warehouse (FDW). Under the I-MANAGE vision, STARS will replace DISCAS and the IDW will replace the FDW going forward. Both STARS and IDW will support the Department with functionality currently available in DISCAS, MARS, and the FDW.

**STARS Users:** End users for STARS will include employees in all finance areas: Accounts Payable (AP), Accounts Receivable (AR), Fixed Assets (FA), General Ledger (GL), and Purchasing (PO). These users currently process financial transactions, enter data into DISCAS, and view reports in MARS. When STARS goes live, all financial data will be entered into STARS and some standard reports will be generated there as well.

**IDW Users:** An IDW user, on the other hand, may be from any functional area (such as: Budgeting, Planning and Programming, Finance, Human Resources, Procurement, and Small Business). Access to IDW will be read-only and data from the source systems, such as STARS, cannot be changed once inside IDW. In addition to the STARS source data, there will be procurement information, small business goals, and performance targets. The IDW will provide users the ability to view and generate consolidated reports linking data from these source systems.

**STARS Data to IDW:** Since STARS will be a key source of reservations, obligations, cost, and budget outlay data, these four types of data and others will be available in the IDW. Users will be able to "slice and dice" these data according to the Accounting Flex Fields defined in STARS. In addition, the IDW will enable association of the financial data with any data that are similarly structured with one or more of the Accounting Flex Fields.

**STARS and IDW Projects:** The STARS and IDW project teams are closely coordinating on development, training, and scheduling, and the communications and training are being coordinated by the same implementation team. If you have specific questions, the teams are willing to help you get answers!

*If you have specific **IDW** questions, please email [IDW@hq.doe.gov](mailto:IDW@hq.doe.gov)*

*For more information on **STARS**, visit the STARS project website: <http://www.me.doe.gov/STARS>*

## IDW Functionality

*Most of you are aware that the I-MANAGE Data Warehouse is coming, but you may still have questions about how it will work. Until the demonstration model is finalized, the functionality can only be described at a high level. Upcoming issues of the IDW Communiqué will go into more detail on specific functionality for end users to better understand how IDW will operate.*

The IDW will be accessible anytime, anywhere, to Headquarters and Field Office personnel through a web-based portal. Two alternate views will be available to users based on assigned roles that incorporate level and information need. Departmental executives will see an "Executive Portal" upon opening that can be tailored to their organization's management requirements. Special features include Executive Alerts about conditions that warrant management attention, Financial Key Performance Indicators, Executive Reports, and a personal "My Workspace" area. General IDW users will have access to a standard portal view upon opening, which will contain pre-built reports, a link to custom reporting through Oracle Discoverer, notifications, approval status, and favorite web links (Executives will have access to this view as well).

The IDW will enrich FDW-based functionality with customized reports, online alerts, and notifications of business situations that arise in the data. The team also intends to make available reports that are analogous to the reports available in the FDW.

## IDW Project Status Update

### IDW Past – Requirements Gathering and Design Phase

The IDW Project kicked off in May 2003, and is scheduled for its first Go Live with the STARS project in October, 2004.

The project began with defining requirements for the new system. FDW and DOE functional end users (including Finance, Human Resources, Procurement, and Small Business representatives) were interviewed to identify the requirements for a new data warehouse. In all, input was received from more than 50 people in 25 different offices at DOE.

Some of the requirements were allocated to existing initiatives like the Standard Budget System. Out of all the requirements identified, however, three subject areas -- Financials, Procurement, and Performance Measurement -- were identified as the initial focus areas for the IDW system design. For more information on the results of the Requirements Definition, please visit the assessment posted on the I-MANAGE web site at:

[http://www.mbe.doe.gov/me2-5/i-manage/IDW\\_Requirements\\_100103.pdf](http://www.mbe.doe.gov/me2-5/i-manage/IDW_Requirements_100103.pdf)

The initial operating capability includes improved analytical capabilities including drill down to greater detail and graphing of trends. In addition, the ten FDW Status of Obligations Reports and five FDW Small Business Achievement Reports will be available. The key for small business reports is that they integrate Finance and Procurement data from different source systems into consolidated reports.

### IDW Present – Development Phase

The project team is currently building the system from the design documents that were drafted in March 2004. The portal is being developed; a demonstration model is being refined; and the data feeds are being unit tested. Data from STARS, Joule, PADSInfo, Federal Procurement Data System, and Small Business Goals are being fed into the IDW and sample reports are generated to ensure proper usability of the demo.

The project is also progressing through the Department's comprehensive Cyber Security Certification and Accreditation process. Project Management has developed a Cyber Security Plan and the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) has conducted preliminary Security Test and Evaluation (STE) testing against the Data Warehouse and Portal. Armed with the findings of the OCIO, IDW will develop additional controls to combat possible vulnerabilities. IDW expects to receive approval from the Acting Chief Financial Officer, James Campbell, no later than August 31st.

The project is preparing a number of Data Interface Agreements, Interface Specifications, and Memoranda of Understanding (MOU). A Data Interface Agreement is executed between IDW and each system or organization that provides source data to IDW. Interface Specifications are prepared for each formalized data feed from IDW to another system. An MOU is developed between IDW and the Application Hosting Environment (AHE) to ensure that necessary technical services are well-documented. Technical members of the IDW project team and the AHE are also preparing new production servers for the deployment of the Data Warehouse and the Portal.

### IDW Future – Testing, Training, and System Evolution

In the near future, the initial operating capability will be tested by select end users from multiple DOE sites for accuracy and operability. Training will also be conducted for end users on Oracle Discoverer (which replaces Business Objects) and the IDW application itself. Training will begin in the September / October 2004 period, taking into account the STARS training schedule.

After the initial implementation, the IDW system will continue to evolve and improve. More source systems will be added, new reports will be created. As end users become more familiar with the new system's potential, we anticipate new requests to further streamline their work processes. In essence, they will continue to learn what the IDW can do for them and improve the system accordingly.

Subject Area	Requested Reporting Functionality
Budget Execution	Perform analytical processing of status of obligations and other budget execution data.
Contracts/Contractors	Perform informational reporting on contracts/contractors.
Performance Measurement	Create performance measures, record results, and analyze results.
Procurement	Perform informational reporting on procurement activities.
Small Business Achievement	Perform analytical processing of small business achievement.

The Requirements Definition Phase identified 13 different categories of requested reporting functionality. The subject areas listed above will be the initial focus of the IDW rollout.

## IDW Project Information

**I-MANAGE Program site:** <http://www.mbe.doe.gov/me2-5/i-manage/>

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